



5
OF 6
JAN 10

2009
SPIKE TV
SCREAM AWARD
WINNER
**GEOFF
JOHNS**
BEST
COMIC BOOK
WRITER



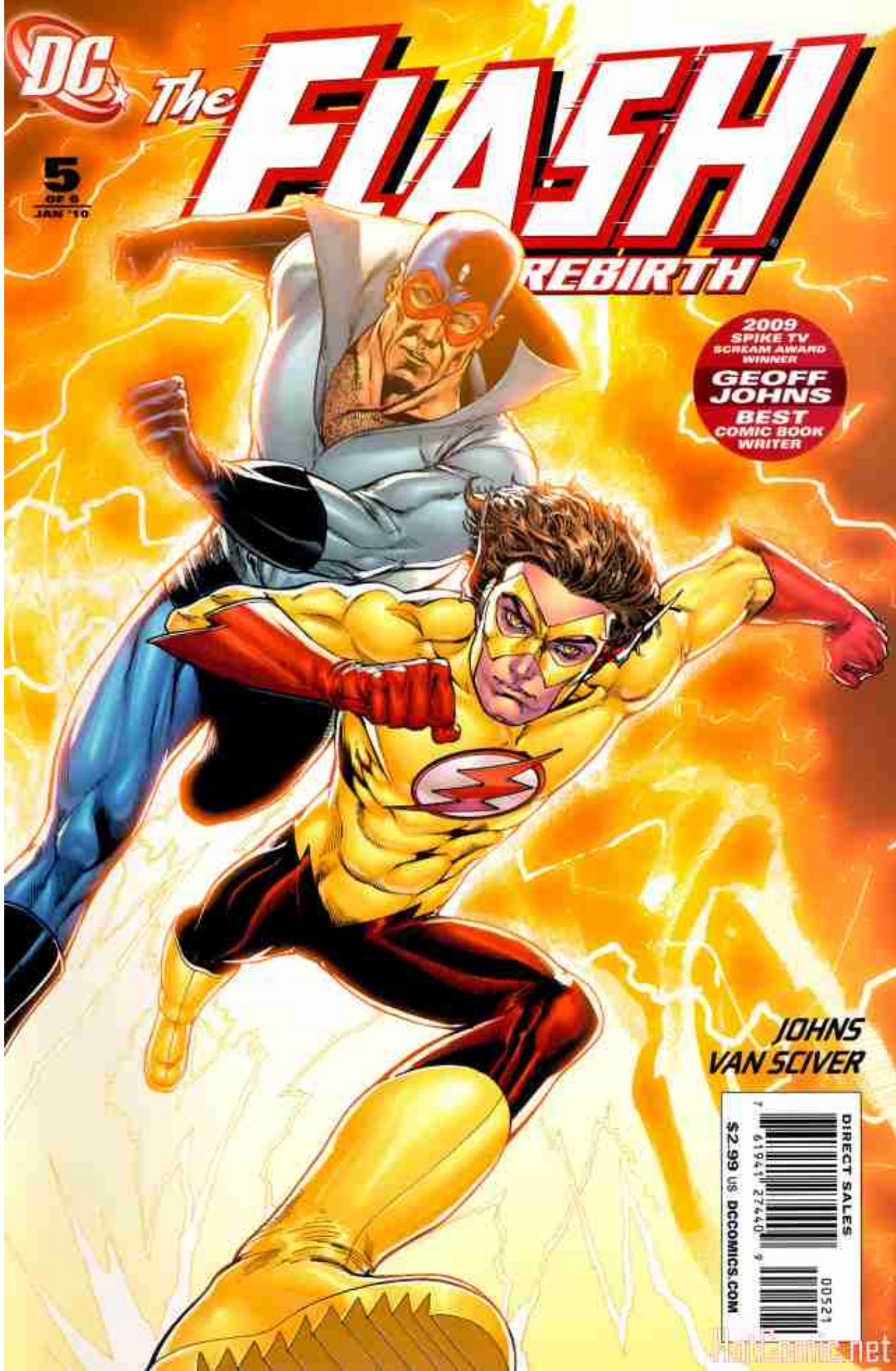
The FLASH REBIRTH

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The

FLASH

REBIRTH

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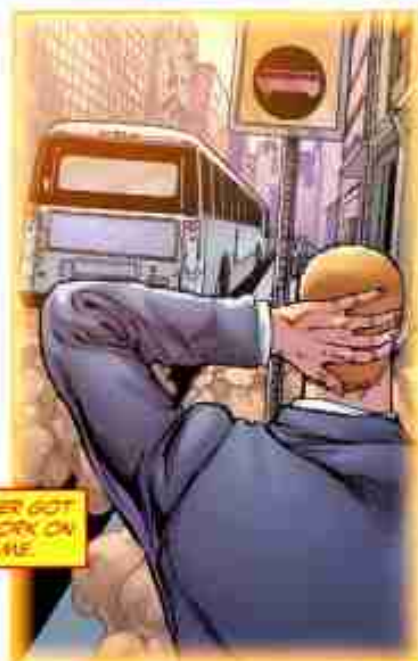
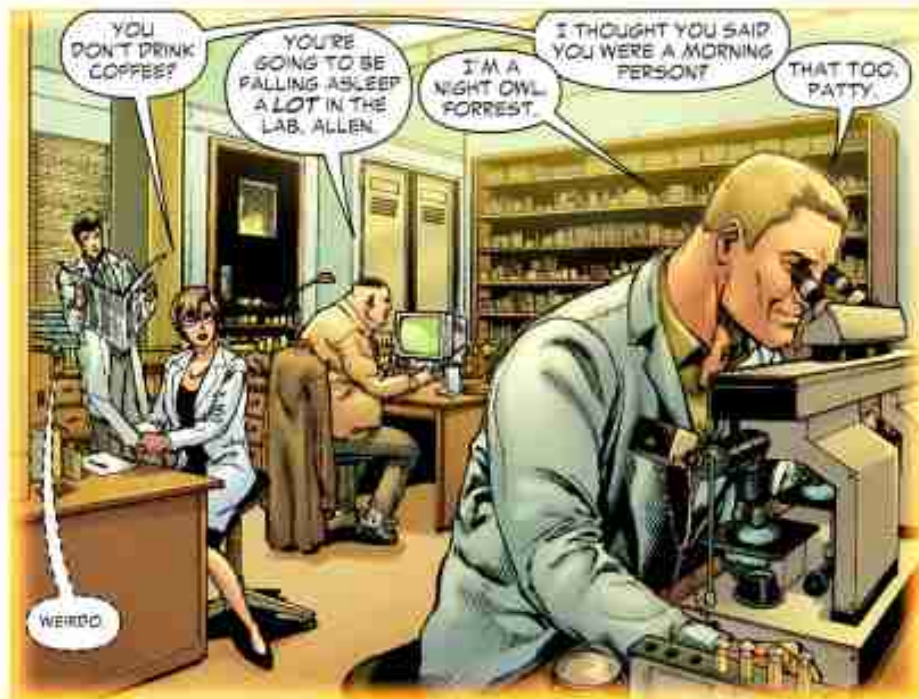
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THE PAST.





NOW.

I USED TO GET THAT SHINE FEELING OF ISOLATION AFTER I BECAME THE FLASH. WHEN I RUN, EVERYTHING ELSE SLOWS DOWN TO A CRANK AND THE WORLD GOES SILENT.

I EXIST BETWEEN THE PAST AND THE FUTURE.

I RIDE THE SINGULAR POINT OF THE PRESENT.

A FLASH'S WEAKNESS ISN'T KRYPTONITE OR THE COLOR YELLOW. IT'S THE ONE THING WE HAVE TO DO TO ESCAPE SOLITARY.

WE HAVE TO SLOW DOWN.

WHEN I RETURNED FROM IN THE SPEED FORCE AFTER YEARS OF BEING AWAY, I FELT DIFFERENT.

I FELT LIKE I COULDN'T STOP.

I FELT ALONE AGAIN.





JAY SETS OFF A
SONIC BOMB

HE OUTRAN THE
SQUAD LEADS

AND AS LONG AS
THARNE'S FEET DON'T
TOUCH THE GROUND--



--HE DOESN'T HAVE ANY
TRACTION TO FOLLOW US.





HEY, MAX, DID YOU KNOW I READ THE ENTIRE SAN FRANCISCO LIBRARY IN LIKE FIVE MINUTES.

YOU DID?

AND UNLIKE EVERY OTHER SPEED-READER, I REMEMBER IT ALL TOO.

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE BOOK?

WELL, NONE WAS MY FAVORITE.

I LEARNED THIS FROM A FRIEND OF WALLY'S.



ZOLOMON.

WHO--?



"SLOW DOWN!"





HAVE YOU FIGURED THE REST OUT YET? YOU'RE THE POLICE OFFICER, BARRY.

WHAT'S MY M.O.?



I DON'T KNOW.

I DO.



LIBERTY BELLE?

I FELT MY FATHER'S HAND ON MY SHOULDER GUIDING ME HERE. HIS VOICE IS FADING, BUT HE SAYS YOUR DAUGHTER IS ONE OF US NOW, IREY WEST.

SHE'S THE NEXT GENERATION.

3X2(9YZ)4A1

I MAY BE FROM THE FUTURE--

--BUT THE PAST IS SO MUCH MORE FASCINATING.









LOOKS LIKE
YOU JUST GAVE
US OUR SECOND
WIND.
AND
I LIKE THE
NEW SUITS.

I'LL HAVE
TO TEACH YOU
THIS TRICK.



TRICK?!

ALL WALLY DID WAS MANIPULATE THE
SPEED FORCE INTO REGENERATING
YOUR UNIFORMS.

HE'S AS MUCH
A NOVICE AS HIS
DAUGHTER.



IMPULSE.

IMPULSE?

IMPULSE?

UH,
THE NEW
IMPULSE.



JAY, YOU AND YOUR WIFE SHOULD
BE APPROACHING A CENTURY IN AGE.
AND YET YOU'RE FIFTY YEARS
YOUNGER.

AND YOU, BART,
YOU'VE BEEN AGED UP
AND DOWN SO MANY
TIMES, YOU SHOULDN'T
HAVE SURVIVED THE
PROCESS.

YOUR TWINS'
RAPID AGING, WALLY,
AND YOUR WIFE,
BARRY. IR--



DON'T YOU
SAY HER
NAME.

EVER.



IRIS.

IRIS.

IRIS.

AREN'T YOU
WONDERING WHY IRIS
DOESN'T LOOK A DAY
OLDER THAN THE DAY
YOU LEFT HERE?

THE SPEED FORCE
ISN'T SIMPLY FUEL TO
AMPLIFY ACCELERATION.
THAT'S ONLY PART OF IT. IT'S
KNOWLEDGE AND EVOLUTION
AND EVERY SCIENTIST'S
HOLY GRAIL--

--YOUTH.









SHE FOUGHT.
OH, HOW SHE
FOUGHT.

YOU'RE
LYING.

YOU LIVED
A LIFE WHERE YOU
WATCHED YOUR PARENTS
GROW OLD TOGETHER.
BUT THAT'S GONE NOW.
BARRY, IT'S GONE
FOREVER.

I'VE
LEARNED THROUGH
EXPERIENCE, YOU
CAN'T CHANGE
THE PAST.

BECAUSE YOU'VE
TRIED, I KNOW YOU'VE
TRIED, BUT THANKS TO
MY SPEED FORCE,
I CAN.

THAT'S WHAT'S
DIFFERENT. THAT'S
WHAT I'VE BEEN
FEELING.

IT HAD NOTHING
TO DO WITH THE
SPEED FORCE.
IT'S ME.

BUT THERE ARE *SOME*
THINGS THAT HAVEN'T CHANGED
IN THIS *NEW* LIFE OF YOURS.
WHAT WAS IT YOU KEPT
CHANTING TO YOURSELF

"AS LONG AS
I REMEMBER IRIS, I'LL
BE ALL RIGHT--"

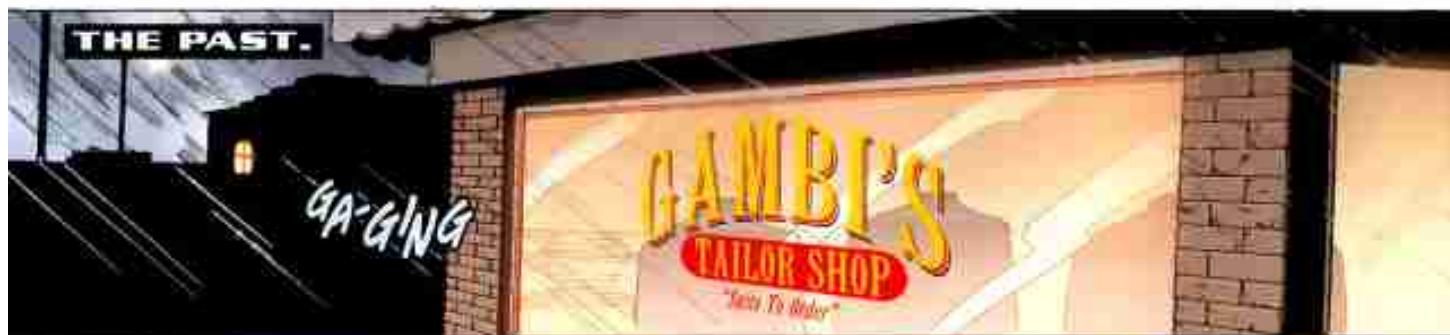
SHUT
UP!

I'M GOING TO TAKE
HER FROM YOU IN *EVERY*
WAY, BARRY. BEFORE
YOU TWO EVER MARRIED.
BEFORE YOU EVEN
DATED.

SHE'S
GOING TO
DIE

AND YOU'RE
GOING TO FORGET
HER.

IRIS.



MOTHER.

MAY I

Geoff Johns, Writer
 Ethan Van Sciver, Artist
 Rob Leigh, Letterer • Brian Miller of HI-FI, Colorist
 Cover by Ethan Van Sciver
 Colored by Brian Miller of HI-FI
 Chris Conroy, Assistant Editor • DEY C'ALLIERI, Editor

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IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR AGAIN IN THE NATION...

...where we turn to the editors in the halls of the DC Universe and ask them what they are most grateful for.

Batman Group Editor Mike Marts - The Caped Crusader protecting our great city.

Cover Editor Kenny Lopez - Everything Blackest Night except the Blackest Night version of the New York Mets that played this year.

Superman Assistant Editor Wil Moss - CAPU's stunning art on the Capitan Atom to feature in ACTION COMICS.

Batman Assistant Editor Jonelle Siegel - Manhunter going head to head with Two-Face. It's about time!

Assistant Editor Chris Conroy - Every beautiful page of THE FIRST WAVE #1 by Rags Morales.

Senior Story Editor Ian Sattler - I am thankful for all the fans who brought "unique" flavored potato chips to our convention panels. Keep it up, everybody!

Red Circle's Associate Editor Rachel Gluckstern - This year I'm thankful for Batgirl swinging by to meet the Web. Not sure if the Web's as grateful though.

Associate Editor Sean Ryan - Cover Artist **Daniel LuVisi**, for always knocking it out of the park on SECRET SIX covers.

Newly crowned Coordinating Editor Liz Gehrlein is gonna get all serious on you for a second - she's very, very grateful for her father's health. "Love you, Dad."

Senior Group Editor Mike Carlin - Thankful I don't have to do the DC Nation pages.

We all have something to be thankful for at the start of this holiday season, and for me it's as always; I am extremely thankful for the support you give us week in and week out.

Happy Thanksgiving, everyone!

To be continued... **DD**



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